Freedom Fighters Pension

1551. SHRI N. THALAVAI SUNDARM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the position of pending applications received for grant of freedom fighters' pension from Tamil Nadu, district-wise;

(b) the details of the applications on which action has been taken during 1996-97 and upto May, 1998; and

(c) whether Government propose to deal with the remaining applications within three months?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No application received for the grant of freedome fighters' pension from Tamil Nadu is pending.

(b) During 1996, 1997 and 1998 (upto May) pension was sanctioned in 62, 118, and 90 cases, respectively. All other cases stand rejected. Applicants whose cases have been rejected, keep on sending representations/review petitions which are duly considered and reply sent wherever necessary.

(c) In view of reply to part (a), Question does not arise.

Agricultural Land Acquired for Border Fencing

1552. SHRI N.R. DASARI:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI GURUGAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI ONKAR SINGH LAKHAWAT:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that while fencing the border along parts of Rajasthan and Punjab acres of land belonging to agriculturists has been acquired by Government without giving any compensation;

(b) if so, how many acres of Tand has been acquired for the purpose; and

(c) whether there is any proposal to give compensation to the kisans whose land has been acquired; if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) to (c) No, Sir, For eraction of fencing and flood lighting on Indo-Pak border in Rajasthan and Punjab, Government has utilised 44 feet wide strip of land for which, as per policy, the State Governments pay compensation to the private owners wherever private land is involved and then claim reimbursement from the Government of India. Rs. 7 crores were released to the Government of Punjab for this purpose. The Government of Rajasthan has not claimed any reimbursement on this accounts so far.

Santosh Dubey Committee on Jail Reforms

1553. SHRI N.R. DASARI:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Santosh Dubey Committee had made some recommendations on jail reforms; and

b) if so, the details thereof and what action has been taken thereon?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi had set up a Committee headed by Justice (Mrs.) Santosh Duggal to inter-alia consider rationalisation of the classification of prisoners in Tihar Jail. The recommendations made by the Committee and action taken thereon are given in the attached statement. Statement

(a) and (b) The Santosh Duggal Committee, in its Report on 'Rationalisation of Classification of Prisoners in Tihar